

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Held: Thursday, 26th March 2015, at 7.30pm at Whaddon Chapel, Stock Lane, Whaddon.

Present: Cllrs Sir B Stanier Bt (Chairman), Pat Haig, Hazel Hedges, Helen Hickman, Peter Lemagnen, Graham Stewart, Derek White.

Members of the Public: 3

Clerk: Suzanne Lindsey

PUBLIC SESSION

Mrs Jenny Groom, Mrs Val Stewart and Mr Roderick Grounds-Peace attended the meeting in connection with planning issues.

Cllr Stewart reviewed the Salden Chase Planning Application 15/00314/AOP, and explained the background and context of this application, and the implications for changing future planning precedent, policy and approvals. Strong concern was expressed about the high additional traffic load on existing local roads, and inadequate provision for additional new roads.

Cllr Stewart, speaking as a member of the public, expressed concern about Planning Application 15/00716/APP for 2a/2b High Street Whaddon. He stated that this resubmission of an earlier planning application did not differ greatly from the original, and some issues such as the parking recommendations had been ignored. However, new traffic data had been provided to address the issue of dangerous vehicular access via the track adjacent to the Village Hall. Cllr Stewart explained that objections to the application were; 1) The new traffic speed and volume data collected and presented by the applicant to support a reduced vision splay had some issues. Traffic from Nash Rd had not been counted, the count was conducted while traffic flows were reduced due the road having been closed the previous week, and speed and volume sensing equipment was not positioned such that accurate data could be collected relevant to the site in question. 2) Appropriate provision for parking spaces had not been made. 3) The development was detrimental to the linear character of the village and would set a precedent for 'back-land' development in other areas of the village.

APOLOGIES

None

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Stewart declared an interest in planning application 15/00716/APP and spoke in discussions only as a member of the public.

MINUTES

The minutes for the previous meeting were adopted and signed.

PROJECT UPDATES AND CORRESPONDENCE

Roads and Footpaths

1. The Clerk advised the contract for this season's mowing had been place with Mr Reg Porter
2. MVAS data had been downloaded and distributed. A pile of tyres had been removed from Stratford Rd. A new bollard had been requested for Whaddon Roundabout Layby.

Street Lighting

1. The clerk advised one street light had been reported for repair.
2. Cllrs discussed a communication from Eon about price increases for electricity, and instructed the clerk to investigate options.

Recreation Ground

1. Cllr Stanier (Chairman) advised he had requested Roger Jaworski to undertake mole trapping.

Police and PCSO

No items.

Communications

1. As previous meeting.

Finance and Administration

1. The Clerk advised the precept request for £15,000 had been submitted.
2. The Clerk distributed nomination packs for the forthcoming election on 7th May 2015.

- The Clerk advised that arrangements had been finalised with Metro Bank, and arrangements made to transfer funds across from TSB. TSB accounts to be closed shortly.
- The Clerk advised that the Local Government directive for clerk's pay had been issued, award being 26p per hour increase.

Allotments

- The Clerk and Cllr White reported that all the allotments were taken and contracts and payments were up to date.
- Cllr White confirmed that renovation work to an over-grown plot had been completed by J Jaworski to a good standard, and the allotments were all in good order. Hedge trimming still needed along the road.

Planning

- The Clerk reported that queries had been submitted to AVDC building control regarding planning/building regulations for a largester sewerage treatment unit, (OS 4464, Stratford Rd under planning application 12/02179/APP) as local residents had expressed concern about effluent and pollution. Cllr Stewart confirmed the local residents had been updated that no breach of planning or building regulations had taken place, and advised that discharge of effluent was a matter they should take up with the local Water Authority.

Other

- The Clerk reported that Solicitor Rachael Brockwell had made some progress on investigating Land Registry of three pieces of land owned by the Council, and this would be chased.
- The Clerk advised that Mr Joseph Gurney had called to advise that his sheep were being attacked by a local dog, and to request help. Mr Gurney was advised that this was a matter for the police.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

The following payments have been received:

12/1/15	D Owen – Allotment Rent – 2 plots	£30.00
25/2/15	Allotment Rents – 7 plots	£105.00
25/3/15	D Taylor – Constable's Plot	£145.00

The following invoices have been received for approval:

631	Winslow Bus	£100.00
632	Eon Lighting Maintenance (2 x quarters to 31/3/15)	£250.20
633	NBPPC Membership	£20.00
634	AVDC Dog Waste Contract	£199.32
635	J Jaworski allotment clearance	£240.00
636	Wilder Engineers and Consultants WQ Printing	£54.58
637	Eon Electric to 2/1/15	£120.77
638	Swarco Traffic Ltd – MVAS maintenance agreement	£163.49
639	S J Lindsey clerk's salary and expenses	£928.99
640	Whaddon Parish Council – transfer of funds to Metro Bank	£11,442.04

Bank Balances as at 26th March 2015

Current Account - TSB	£13,419.39
Current Account – Metro Bank	£105.00

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following applications/approvals have been received:

15/00205/ATC	Turrets, High St	Tree Works	Application
15/00039/APP	2 Church Lane	Extension	Application
15/00235/APP	Landfill Site, Bletchley Rd, Newton Longueville	Modular office building, car parking, landscaping	Application
15/00589/APP	11 Stock Lane	Extension, garage, wall	Application
15/00716/APP	2a/2b High St	Two dwellings	Application
15/00652/APP	Thrift Farm	Building and car parking	Application
15/00793/APP	The Gleanings, Church Lane	Front garage extension	Application

REPORTS

- Cllr Stewart reviewed planning applications. He expressed concern about 15/00589/APP – 11 Stock Lane – as the proposed new garage breached the traditional building line and interfered with the open character of Stock Lane. Cllrs agreed for the objection to be submitted.

2. Cllr Stewart reviewed recent changes in planning procedures that were implemented to stream-line the process, and this had not been straightforward. Cllr Stewart explained that WPC would no longer be consulted on tree works. Also, no copies of plans would be sent out with planning applications. Plans were available on-line but these were difficult to read accurately.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ALREADY DEALT WITH

There were no additional matters.

AOB

1. Cllr Hickman requested for the replacement bollard for the Whaddon Roundabout Layby be chased, to avoid a repeat of dumping of tyres.
2. Cllr Stanier agreed to take up the issue of HGVs through the village with Paul Hodson at the LAF meeting.
3. Cllr Stewart reported that his request to reduce the walnut tree (which is subject to TPO) had been refused. Concern exists that a bough overhanging the Village Hall could fall and cause considerable damage.
4. Cllr Haig advised that Whaddon Quarterly was expanding and it may be necessary to change the format and the printing arrangements shortly, to accommodate extra pages.
5. Cllr Hedges notified the Council that two thefts of tack had occurred from her barns.
6. Cllrs discussed a recent complaint from a parent of a child at the Village School, regarding congestion outside the School during morning and afternoon collection times. Cllr Hedges advised that the Head Teacher Mrs Travis had suggested double yellow lines on both sides of the road outside the school; however this would have a negative impact on home owners not being able to park outside their homes, and merely serve to push the problem further down the road. A Lollypop Lady was also considered.
7. Cllrs discussed the suggestion from AVDC of marking VE Day with a community celebration, but felt notice was too short to organise a suitable event at this late stage.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council will take place in 2015 on 26th March, 14th May, 30th July, 24th September, 26th November.